Govt. of India amounted to Rs. 36.67 Crores as on 31.3.98.

A statement indicating the yearwise allocation for various projects from UNDP and GOI funds is enclosed at Annexure- [*See* Appendix 184, Annexure No. 54]

(c) The National Jute Programme with UNDP assistance has contributed towards jute diversification in various ways by implementation of various schemes to improve productivity for welfare of jute farmers, Textile and non-textile applications like development of innovative spinning systems for jute/jute blends, new processing techniques for fibre treatment, substitution of jute in wood products and paper making, thermo-setting composite, geo-textiles and non-toxic fibre lubricants, bio-technological applications to improve quality of fibre. The programme has also helped to promote employment opportunities through Human Resource Development and also contributed in increasing export, both of yarn and jute products from Rs. 760 million and Rs. 87 million in 1992-93 to Rs. 1343 million and 630 million respectively in 1996-97.

Revival Plan for NTC/NJMC Mills in West Bengal

1639. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4240 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th May, 1997 and state:

(a) the present status of revival plan of NTC and NJMC units referred to BIFR; and

(b) the action plan to pay statutory dues to workers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Govt. on the basis of a unit-wise viability study made by NTC is considering a revised turn around strategy for the viable mills of NTC, keeping in view the BIFR norm of the networth of these mills turning positive within the period prescribed by BIFR. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the revival plan.

The revised plan for NJMC is also before the Govt. for consideration.

(b) on account of acute shortage of working capital the statutory dues of NTC/NJMC workers/employees have fallen into arrears. The statutory dues will be cleared as and when funds become available.

Carpet Industry Units Using Spun Silk Yarn

1640. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of carpet industry units using spun silk yarn in their production;

(b) what is the total requirement of spun silk yarn by this industry;

(c) whether the industry is getting sufficient spun silk yarn for the productions; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) No such statistical data is being maintained. However, there are nearly 700 Exporters exporting silk carpets from the country. (b) to (d) The total requirement of spun silk yarn in the carpet industry is estimated at 4 lakhs Kgs. per annum, which is met through indigeneous production and shortfall, if any, can be met through imports of spun silk yarn under the advance licensing scheme.

Unscrupulous Business of Silk by China

1641. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that China has started unscrupulous business in silk waste trade with India;

(b) what is the effect of this unhealthy trade on the spun silk industry and silk production; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard?